

JCS review(s) completed 2005/05/16 CIA-RDP71R00510A000300100006-6 COPY NR

NAVY review(s) completed CENTER

//OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM//

DIA review(s) completed

AIR RECONNAISSANCE OPERATIONS IN NVN (C)

- A. CJCS 6226/112351Z APR 68 (PASEP)
- B. SACRECONCEN DO/DI 081340Z DEC 67 (PASEP)
- C. JCS J3 6391/032009Z JAN 68 (NOTAL) (PASEP)
- D. DIA DIAXX-1 2402/131952Z JUN 68 (PASEP)

1. Ref A directed the use of SR-71 and drone aircraft to obtain minimal coverage essential to detect changes in NVN Military capability and the extent of resupply activity. Ref B contained the following quote from CSAF AFXOPR 301506Z NOV 67. QUOTE: The 147S Drone in SEA is to be used primarily as a tactical reconnaissance vehicle and may be tasked to CINCSAC by CINCPAC in coordination with his component commanders. In the event National tasking from here is required JCS will task CINCSAC. This message has been coordinated with JCS, J3 (JRC). UNQUOTE. Ref C directed CINCPAC requests for high altitude ^{Bumpy Action} ~~Bumble Bug~~ missions, to be submitted to CINCSAC for action with information to JCS. CINCSAC is directed to ^{to} ~~to~~ CINCPAC requests within capabilities. Ref D asserted that ~~that~~ ^{that} required to certify the validity of objectives programmed for ~~for~~ ^{for}

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FROM: ~~SECRET~~ CINCPAC

INFO: CINCSAC
CSAF
CINCPACAF
CINCPACFLT
CINCUSARPAC
DIA (DIAXX)

SPECIAL HANDLING INST

CLASSIFICATION: ~~SECRET~~

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CLEAR WITH: ~~SECRET~~ J3

J230 ~~SECRET~~ J20A

J2 ~~SECRET~~ J3B5 ~~SECRET~~ J02

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

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DYG282330Z JUN 68

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and SR-71 coverage and assess the effectiveness of results. CINCPAC

therefore requested to restrict recce requirements submitted

directly to CINCSAC to those already validated/approved by DIA and

listed in the DIA Imagery Reconnaissance Objectives List (IROL).

Those not contained in the IROL are to be submitted via normal IROL

nomination procedures to DIA for validation.

3. The procedures requested by DIA in Ref D are *designed for peacetime*
conditions and not appropriate to ~~the war conditions encountered in SEA.~~

The Imagery Reconnaissance

Objectives Program (IROP) and lists were not conceived for nor was

the program presented and coordinated with the Unified and Specified

Commands to support the type of operations presently being conducted

in SEA. DIA IROL submission and validation procedures preclude

timely responses to the requirements of the operational commands in

SEA. The PACOM data bases contain thousands of targets (i. e.,

bridges, supply caches, truck parks, LOC segments and bypasses,

etc.), previously not considered suitable for IROL inclusion since they

were tactical in nature and associated only with SEA strike forces.

Inclusion of these types of facilities in the IROL would degrade the

IROP and compound an already difficult reconnaissance problem.

Besides reducing the timeliness of response, the potentially effective

IROP system would become inundated with objectives of a fleeting

nature. Accordingly, the effectiveness of the IROL as a Peacetime

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Reconnaissance Management tool would be seriously degraded.

4. It would appear that DIA could identify current requirements through use of CINCPAC tasking messages and the PACOM data bases already disseminated thus precluding the delays incurred in the administrative procedures of the approving and certifying each PACOM recce requirement. This is particularly true for the Giant Scale program which has an ample collection capability. Photo Interpretation Reports, automatically forwarded to DIA, should provide all necessary information for effectiveness assessment of both Giant Scale and Bumpy Action programs.

5. Recommend the following procedures:

(a) CINCPAC requests for Giant Scale or Bumpy Action reconnaissance over SEA continue to be submitted direct to CINCSAC with information to JCS/DIA in accordance with REF C.

~~CINCSAC~~
 (b) CINCPAC continue to honor CINCPAC requests within capabilities.

(c) JCS (JRC/DIA) continue to monitor requests per para 3 above, notifying CINCSAC and CINCPAC only when requests are not favorably considered, as also directed by para 3, Ref C.

(d) DIA continue to exclude PACOM SEA requirements from standard validation and IROL submission procedures. GP-1

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